

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Osamu YAMADA, et al.

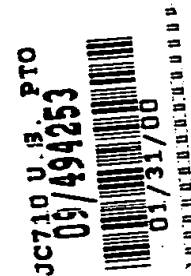
Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: January 31, 2000

Examiner:

For: IMAGE FORMATION APPARATUS LIMITING PRINT OPERATION ACCORDING  
TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION EMBEDDED IN INPUT IMAGE DATA

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

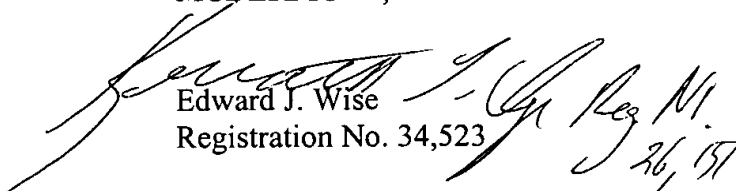
In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

Each non-English reference is accompanied by an English abstract.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL &amp; EMERY



Edward J. Wise  
Registration No. 34,523

600 13<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3096  
(202) 756-8000 EJW:dtb  
**Date: January 31, 2000**  
Facsimile: (202) 756-8087